



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Brian Hoeth*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Thursday, September 6, 2018

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).

## Today - Friday

- Heavy rain and areas of flash flooding likely in **AR** as **Gordon** remains over the area.
- Isolated heavy rain and flash flooding will be possible in **NW & W TX** into **SE NM** today and again for **W TX** Friday.

## Saturday - Monday

- Isolated heavy rain/flash flooding possible from **AR** through the **ArkLaTex** into **N-Central TX** and **SW TX** Saturday moving eastward into **E&S AR, LA, and E/SE/S TX** Sunday and Monday.
- Some rivers in **AR** and **TX** may see minor river flooding, widespread significant river flooding is not expected.

## Tropical Outlook

- Tropical Depression **Gordon** is inland over **MS** and is forecast to move slowly across **AR** today and tomorrow. By Saturday, the remnants of **Gordon** will move rapidly north and northeast out of the Region.
- Hurricane **Florence** in the Central Atlantic is moving **NW** near 12mph. A turn toward the west-northwest with a decrease in forward speed is expected later today, followed by a turn toward the west by the weekend.
  - *Florence's forecast beyond day 5 is highly uncertain at this time.* Given the large uncertainty, it is far too soon to speculate what, if any, impacts **Florence** may have on the **U.S. East Coast** next week.
- A broad area of low pressure a couple of hundred miles **W-SW** of the **Cabo Verde Islands** is gradually becoming better organized and is expected to become a tropical depression within the next few days.
  - Formation chances in next 48 hours...high...70%
  - Formation chances in 5 days...high...90%
- A tropical wave will move off the west coast of **Africa** on Friday. A tropical depression could form over the weekend or early next week.
  - Formation chances in next 48 hours...low...10%
  - Formation chances in 5 days...medium...50%

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Sept 6, 2018 – Sept 10, 2018



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DAY / THREAT	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
Severe Storms					
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	AR	AR	AR, ArkLaTex, N-Cntrl TX through SW TX	S&E AR, LA, E/SE/STX	S&E AR, LA, E/SE/STX
	NW&W TX, SE NM	W TX			
Fire Weather					
Tropical Weather					
River Flooding	AR	AR	AR, TX	AR, TX	AR, TX

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

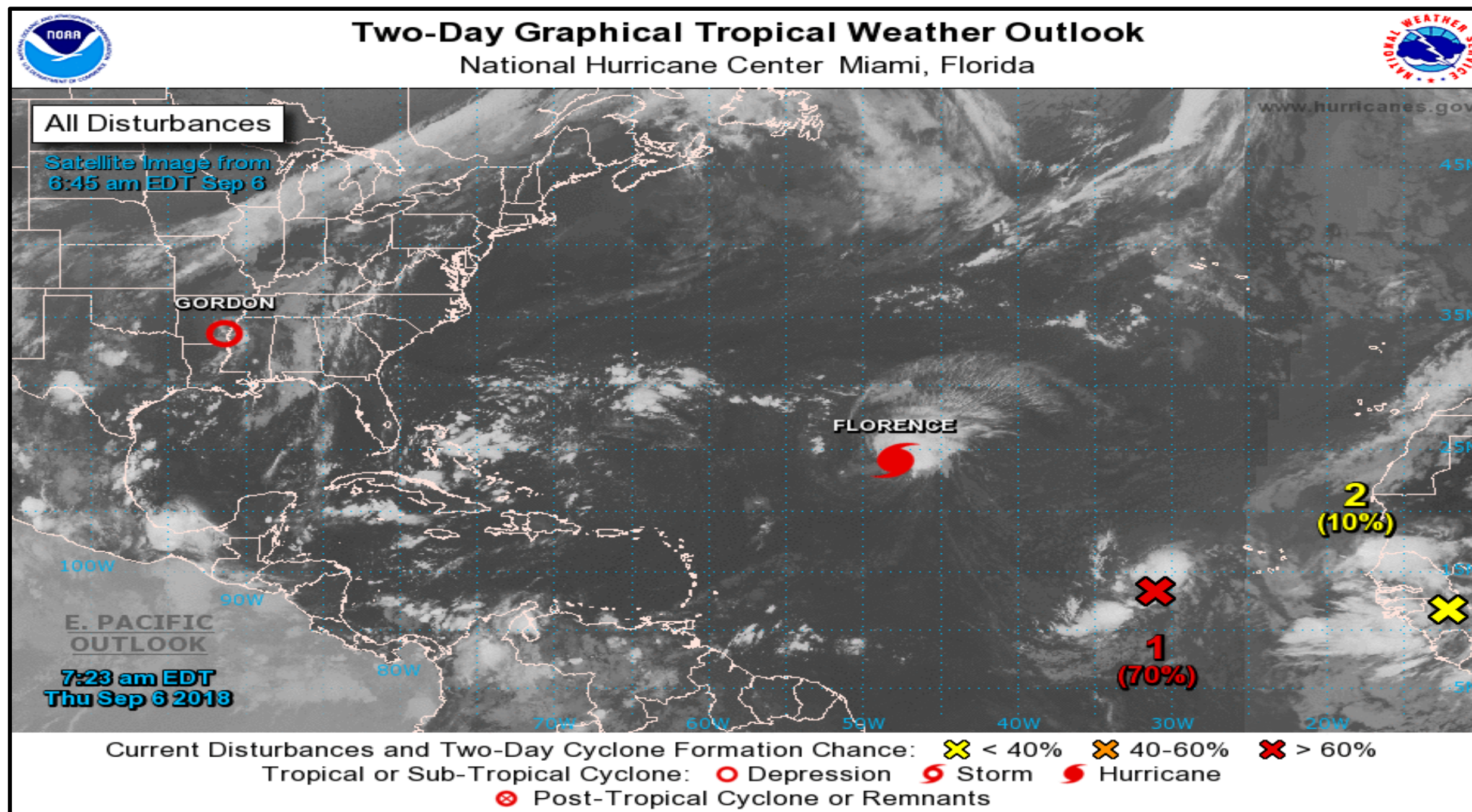
*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*



# Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf



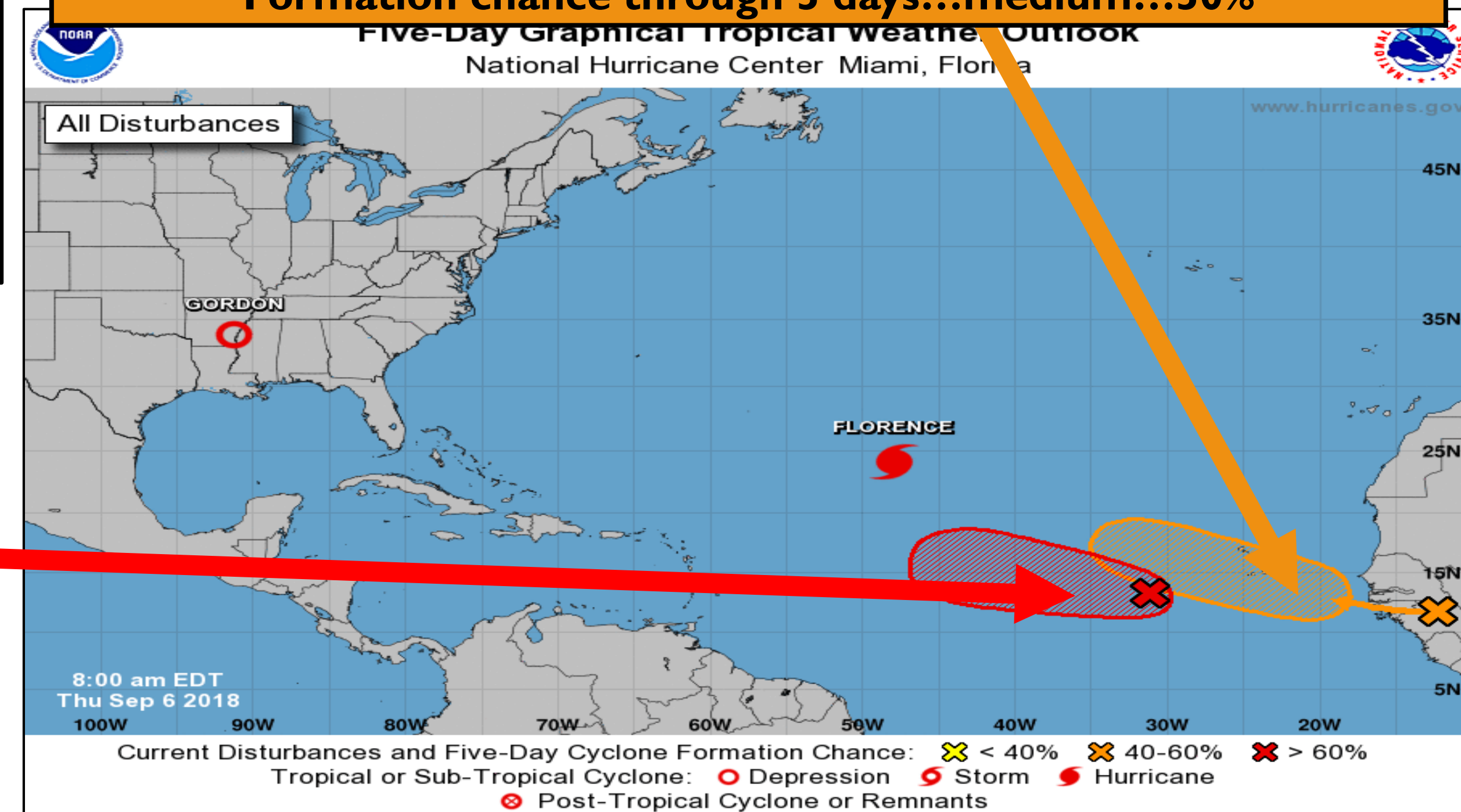
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**See next slide for more information on Hurricane Florence.**

**A tropical wave is forecast to move off the west coast of Africa on Friday. A tropical depression could form over the weekend or early next week (somewhere within the orange hatched area).  
Formation chance through 48 hours...low...10%  
Formation chance through 5 days...medium...50%**

**Broad low pressure is becoming better organized and a tropical depression is likely to form within the next few days (somewhere within the red hatched area).  
Formation chance through 48 hours...high...70%  
Formation chance through 5 days...high...90%**

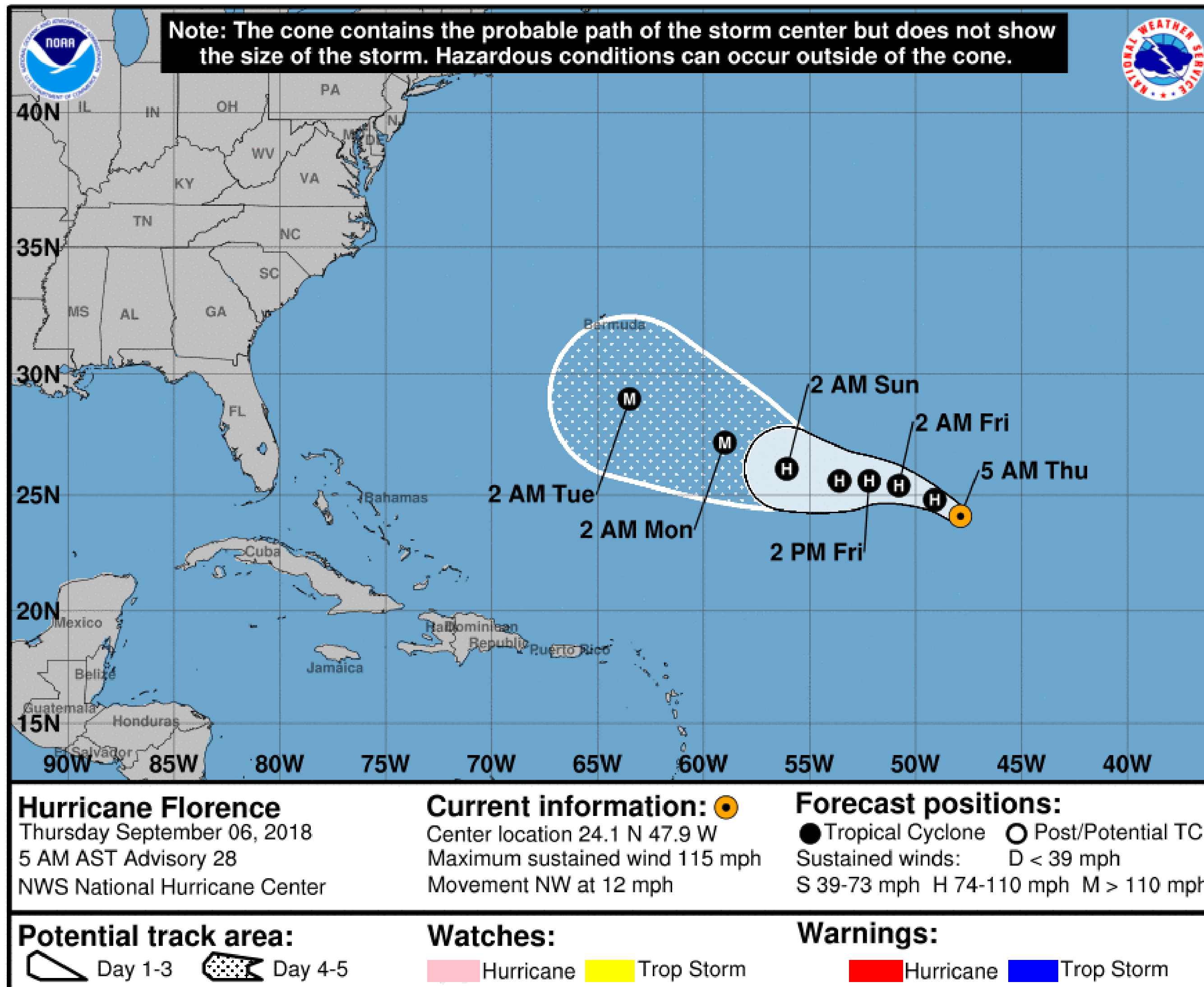




# Hurricane Florence



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**Hurricane Florence in the Central Atlantic is moving NW near 12mph. A turn toward the west-northwest with a decrease in forward speed is expected later today, followed by a turn toward the west by the weekend.**

**Florence's forecast beyond day 5 is highly uncertain at this time. Given the large uncertainty, it is far too soon to speculate what, if any, impacts Florence may have on the U.S. East Coast next week.**

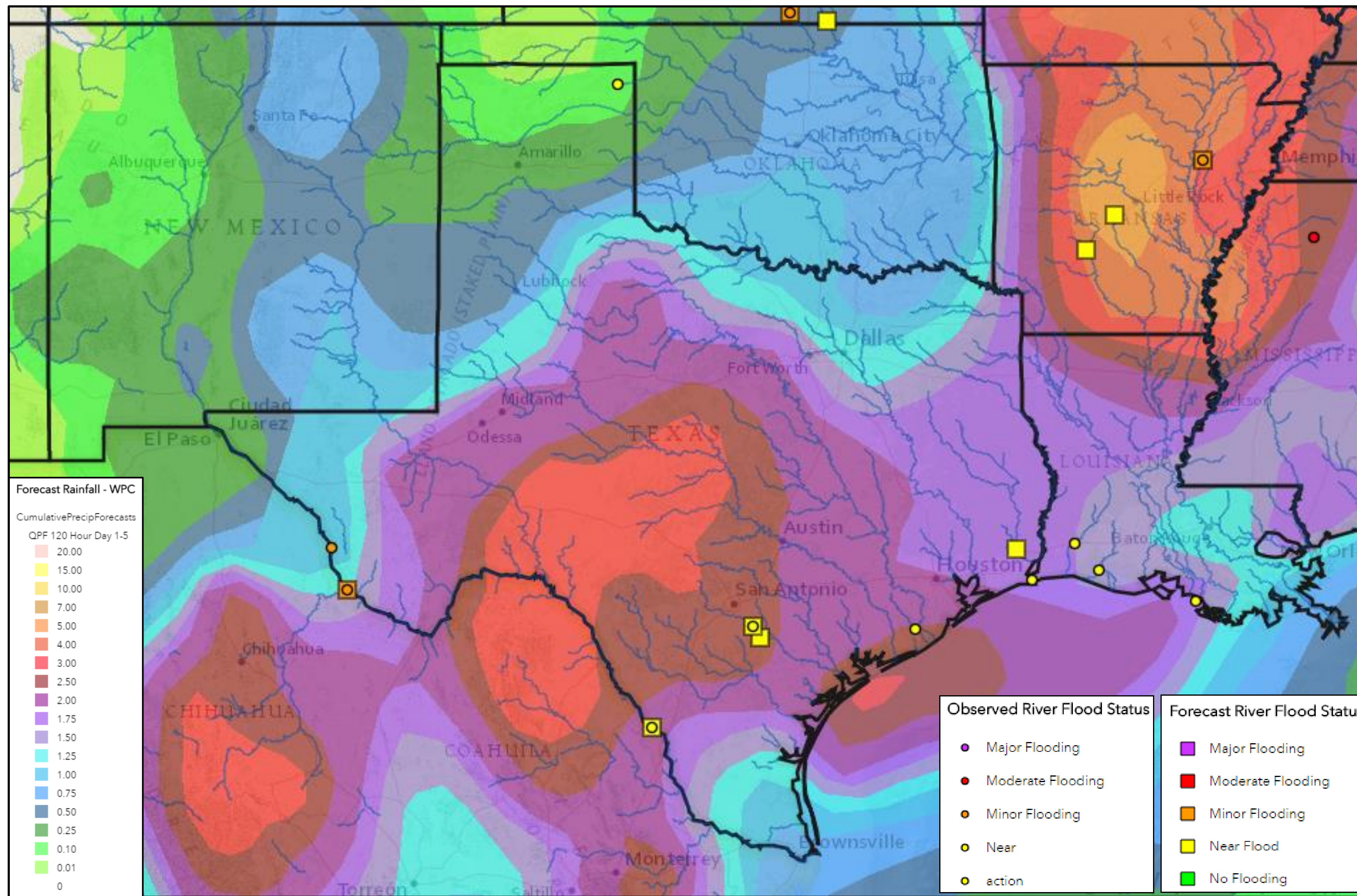


# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



**Heavy rains from Gordon will spread into AR over the next couple of days. There is high confidence in at least minor flooding on some rivers, although it is difficult to pinpoint exact basins at this point.**

**Moisture from Gordon will interact with a front later this week bringing rainfall to North Central Texas, West Central Texas, and the Hill Country. Minor to moderate flooding is possible especially in smaller streams, tributaries, and headwaters as rain has been in this area for a couple of days. Mainstem rivers and reservoirs have room to accept flood water, but mainstem action to minor flooding is possible.**



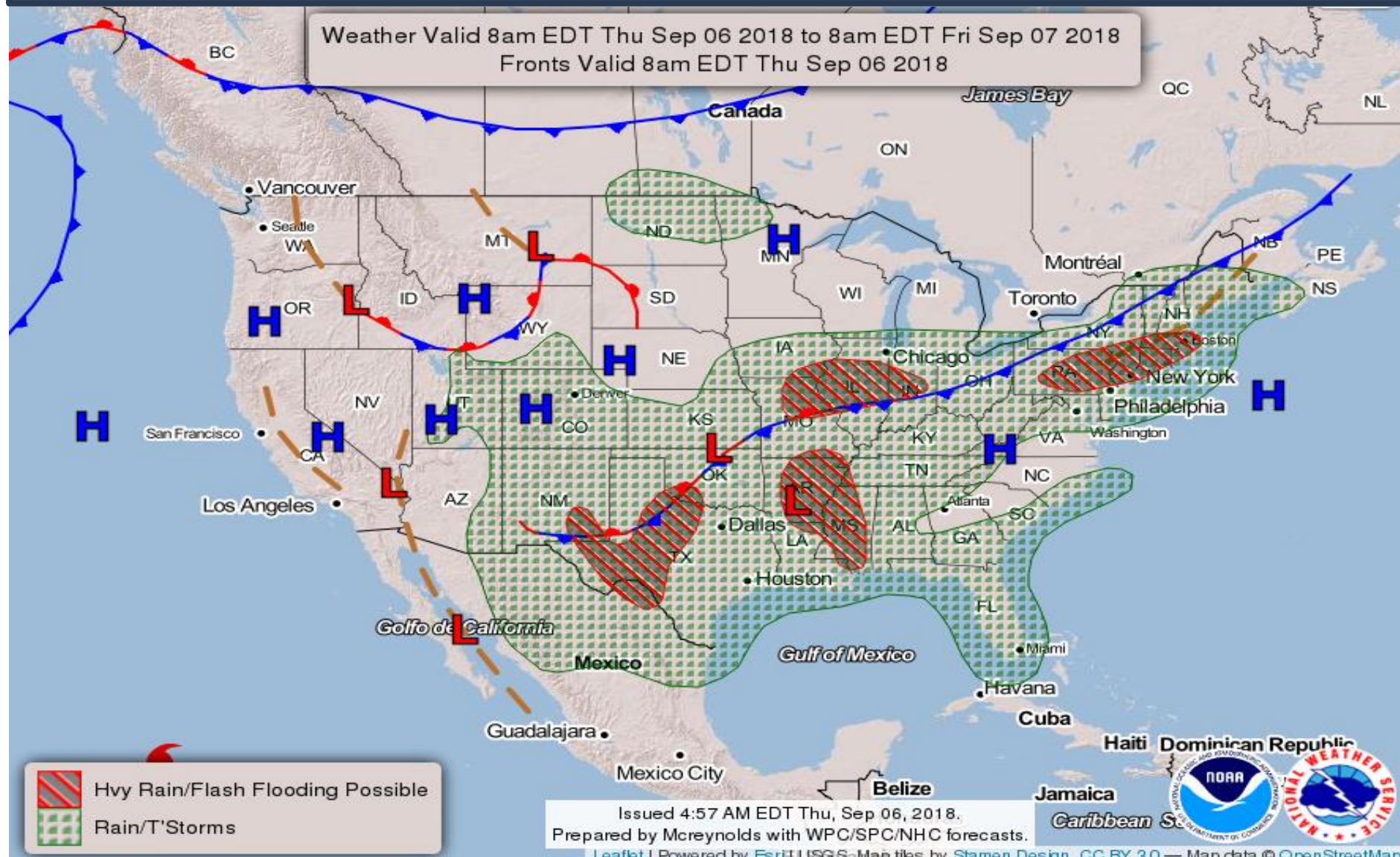
# Today's Weather



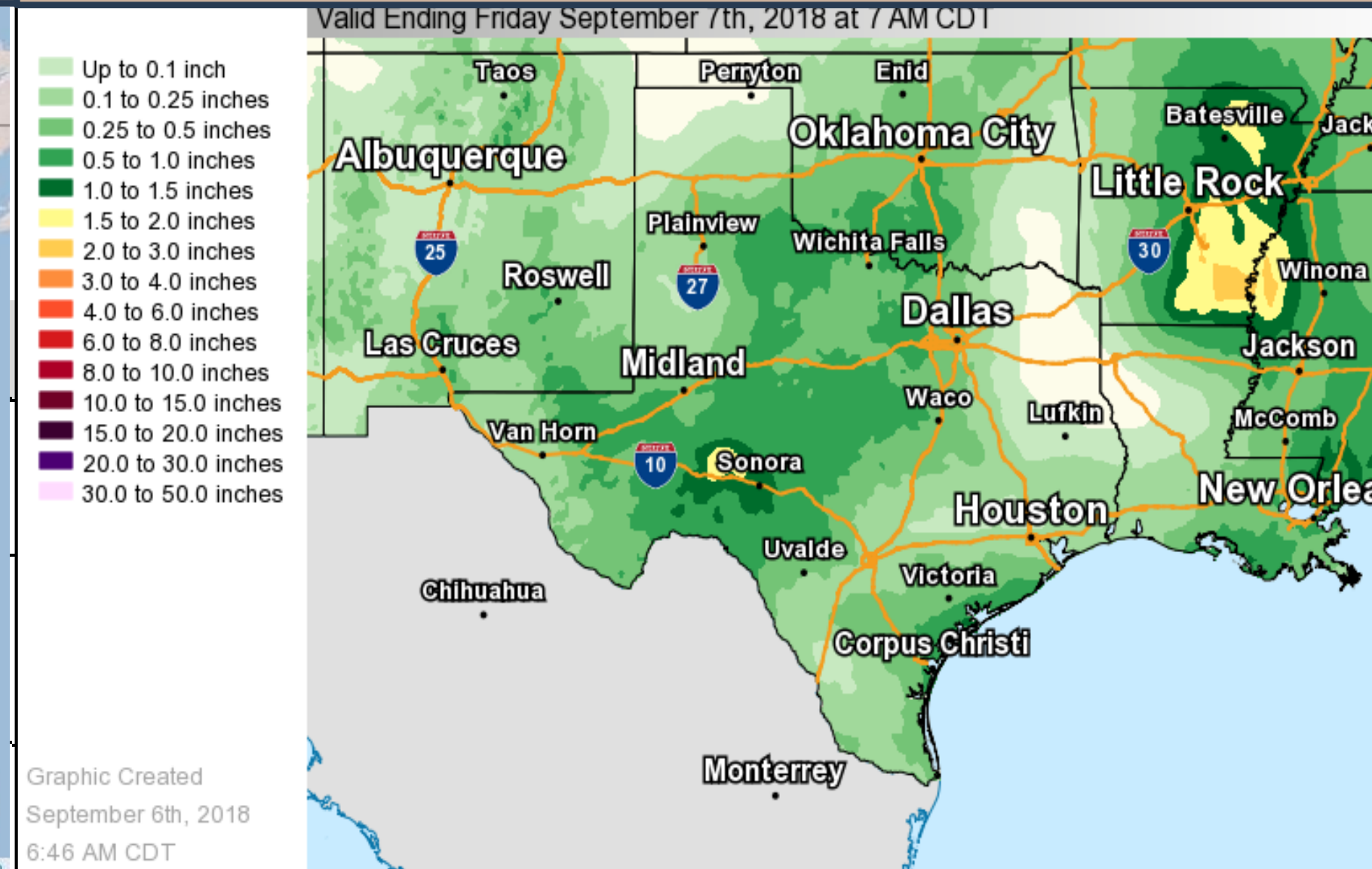
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# Forecast Chart



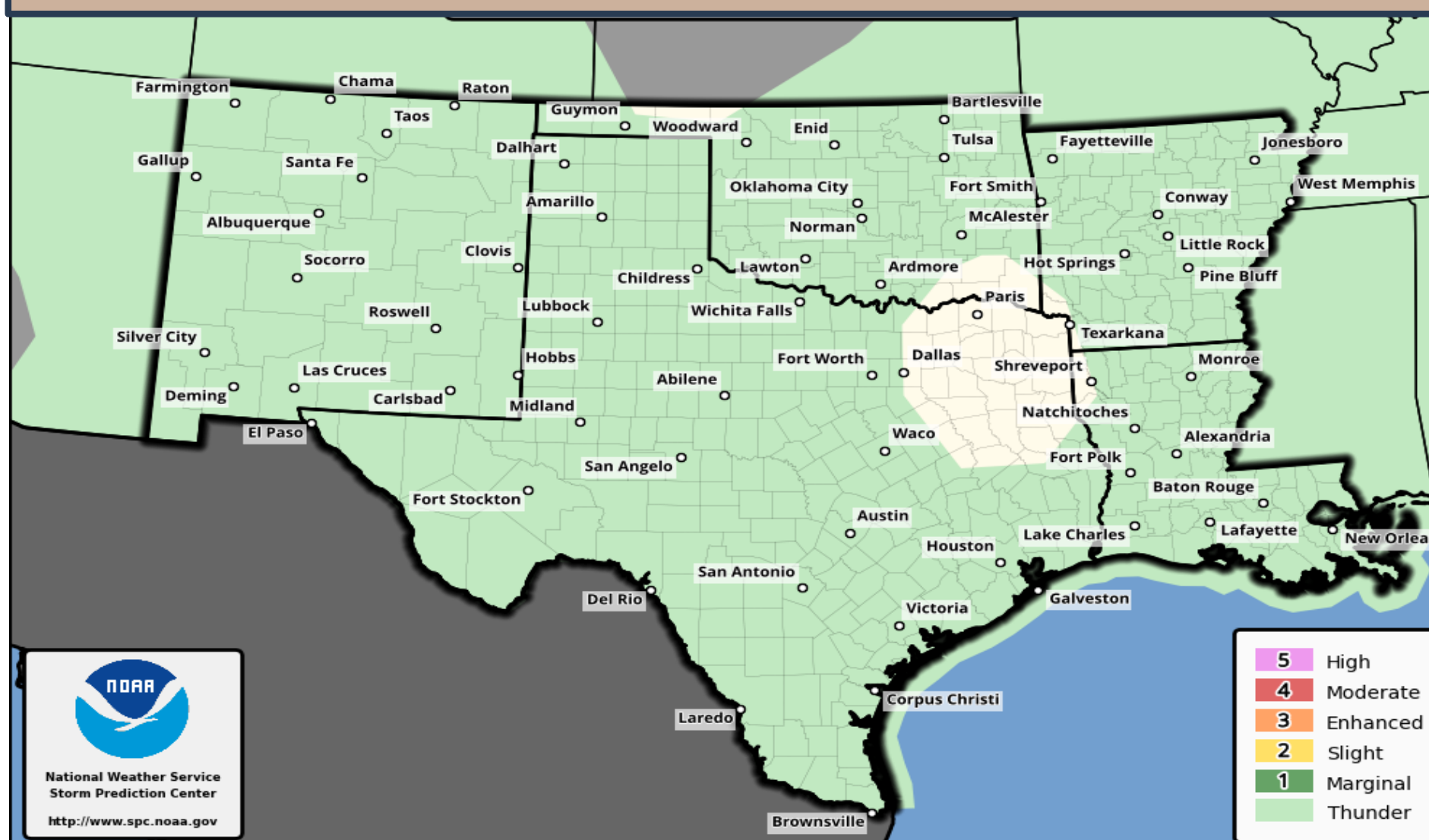
# Forecast Rainfall



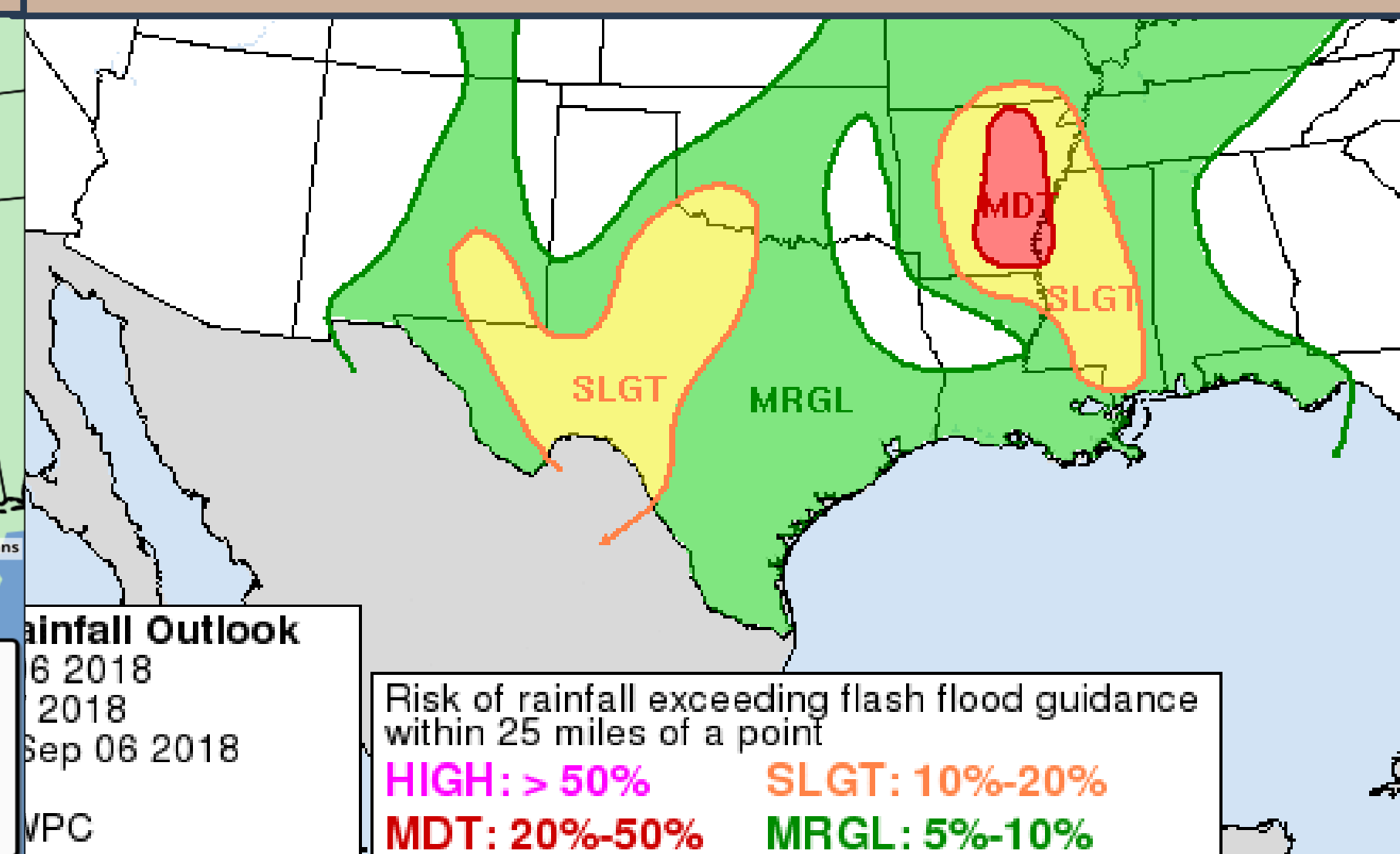
**Heavy rain and areas of flash flooding likely in AR as Gordon remains over the area.**

**Isolated heavy rain and flash flooding will be possible in NW & W TX into SE NM.**

# Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



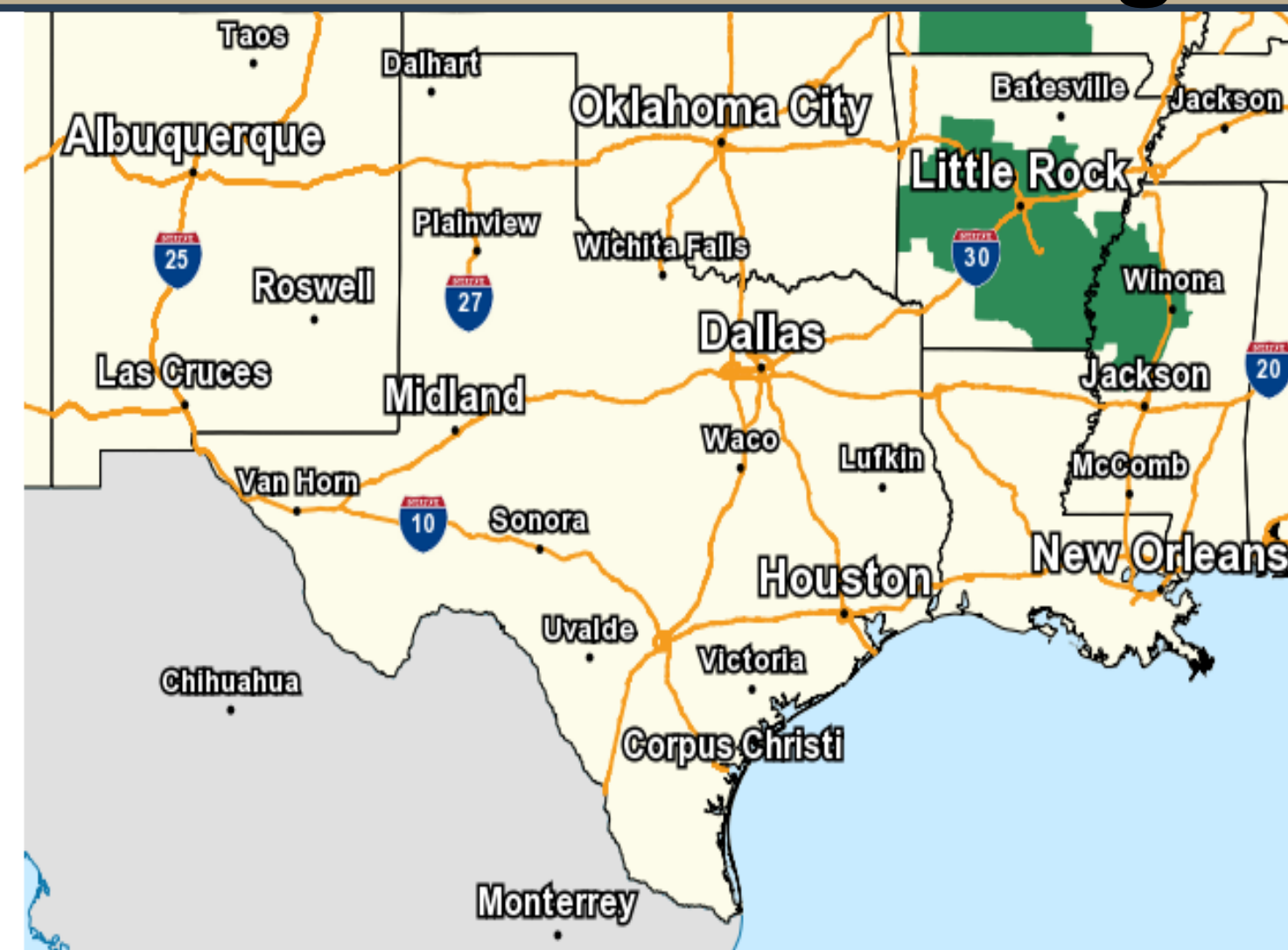
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## Fire Weather



Graphic Created

## Severe Weather & Flooding



Graphic Created

**Flash flood watches are in effect for much of Arkansas through Friday morning.**

## Strong & Gusty Winds



Graphic Created

## Winter Weather



Graphic Created

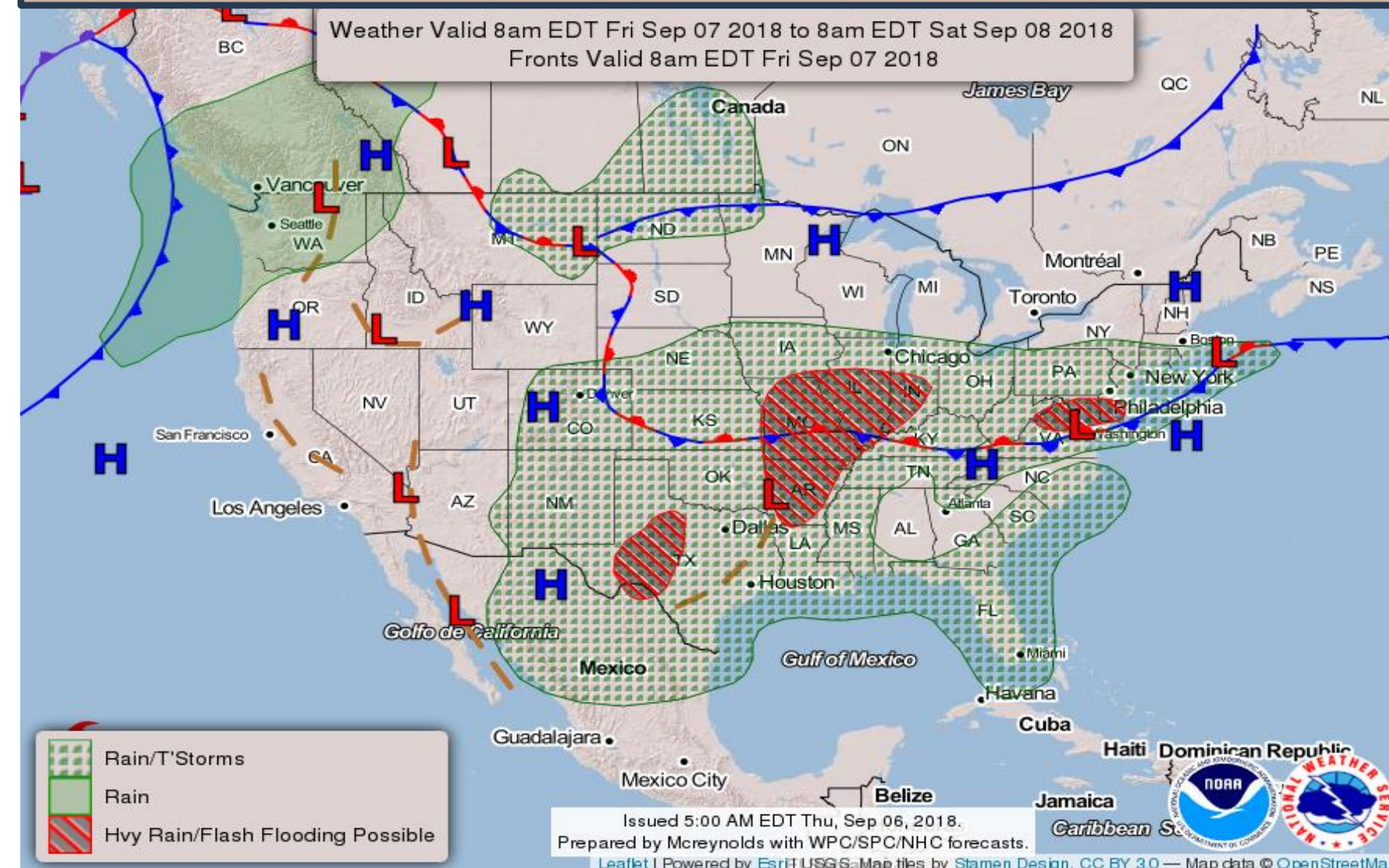


# Tomorrow's Weather

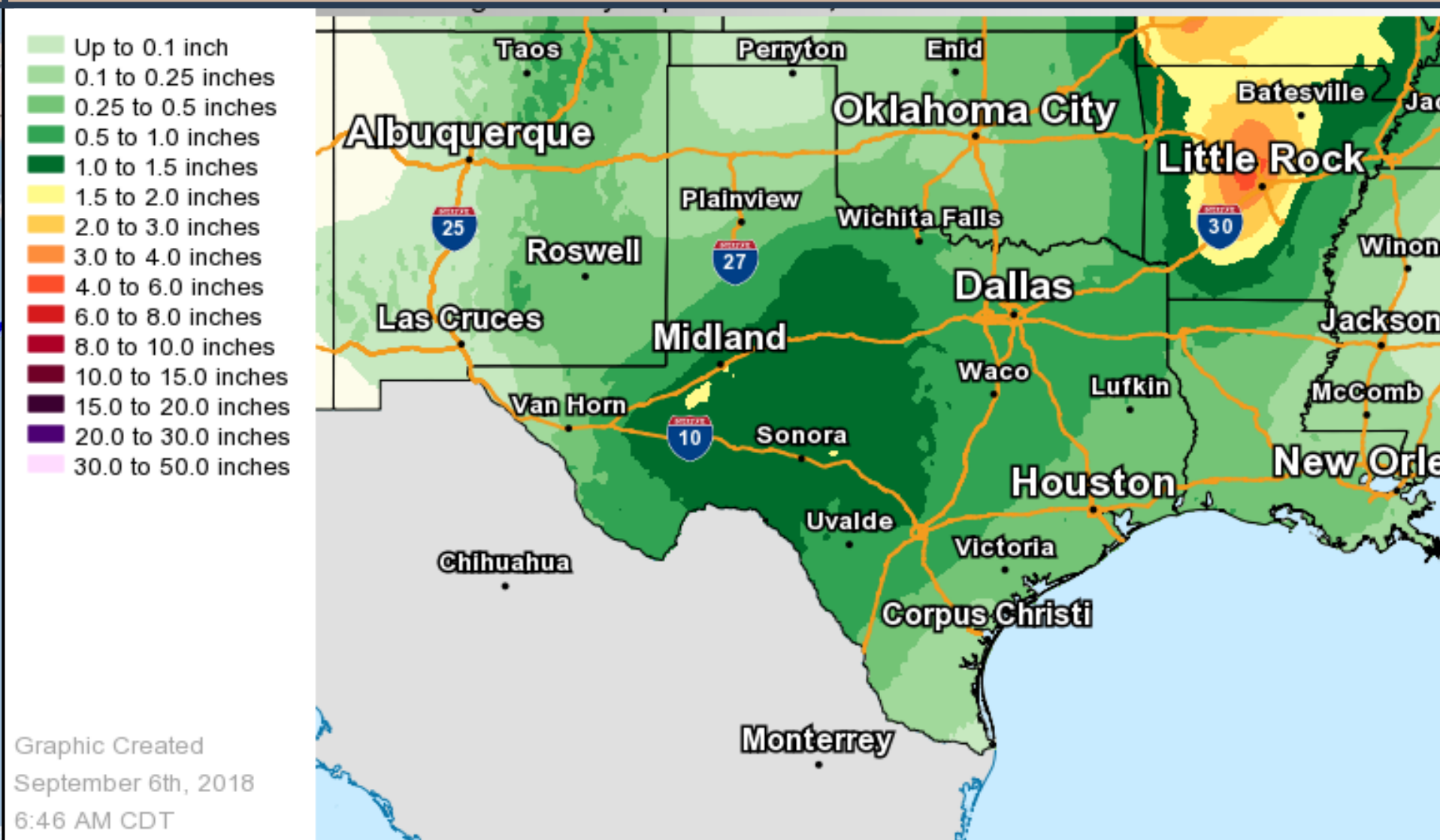


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## Forecast Chart



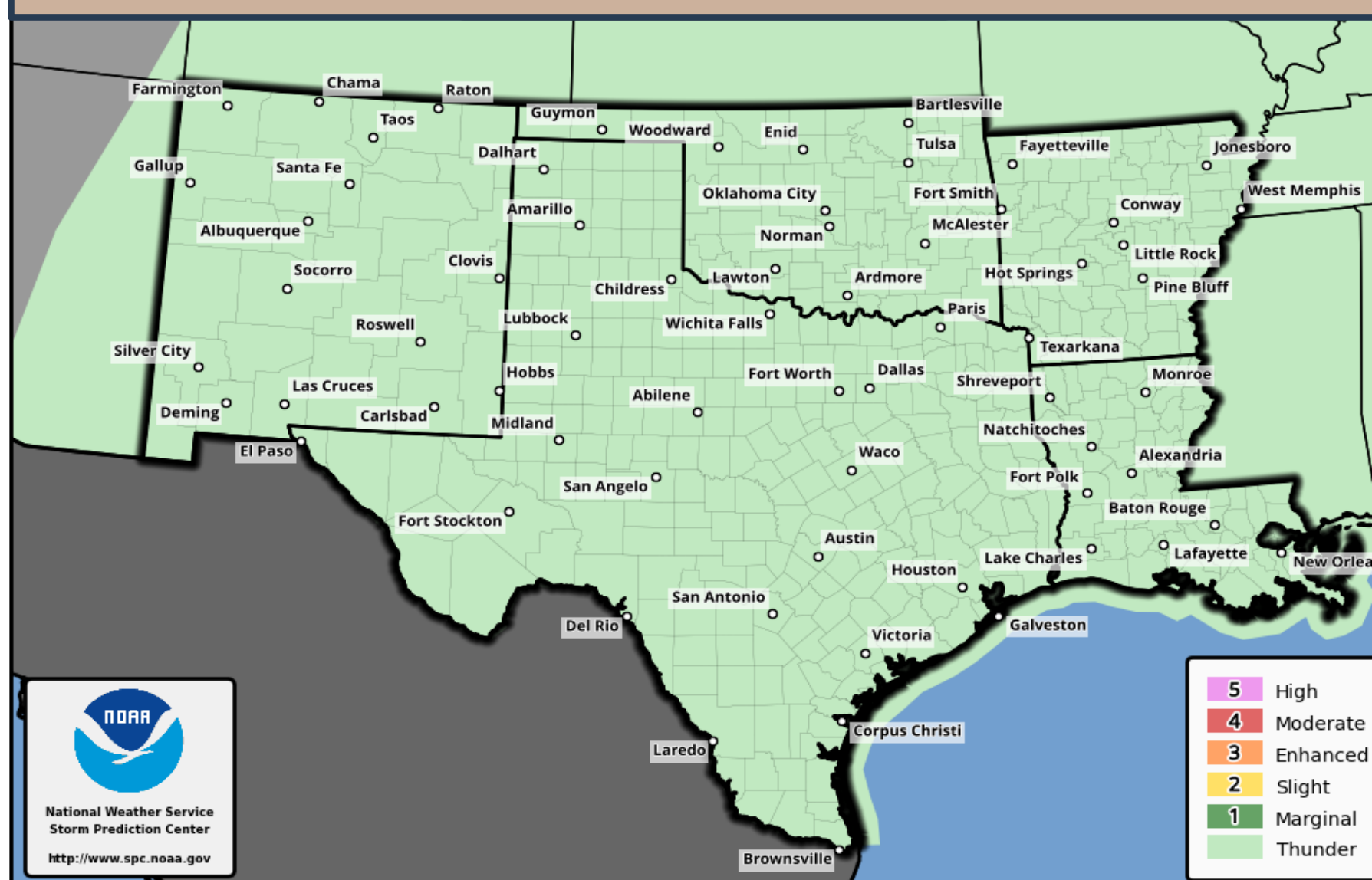
## Forecast Rainfall



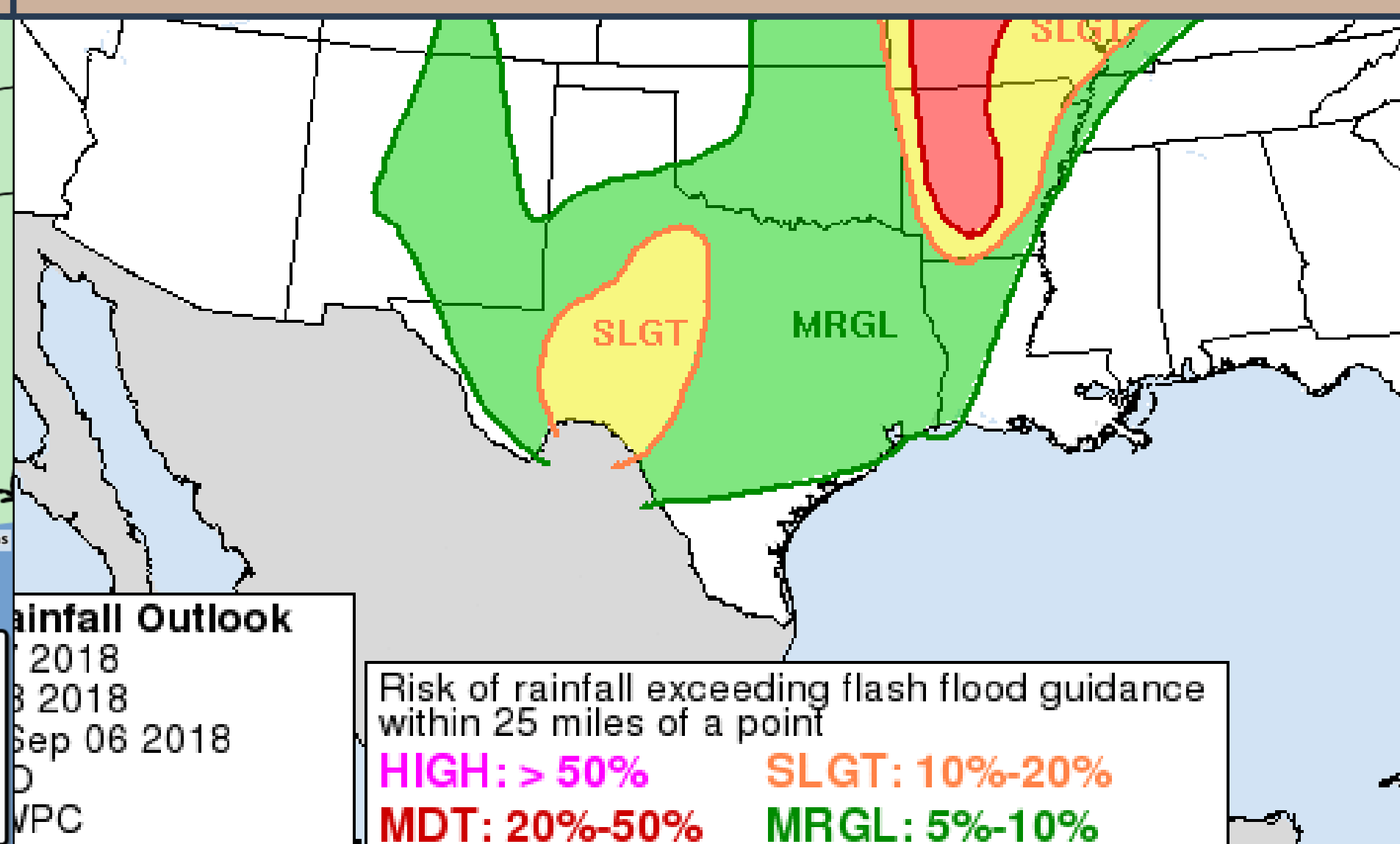
**Heavy rain/flash flooding continues to be likely in AR as Gordon will remain over the area.**

**Isolated heavy rain and flash flooding will be possible again for W TX Friday.**

## Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





# Saturday's Weather

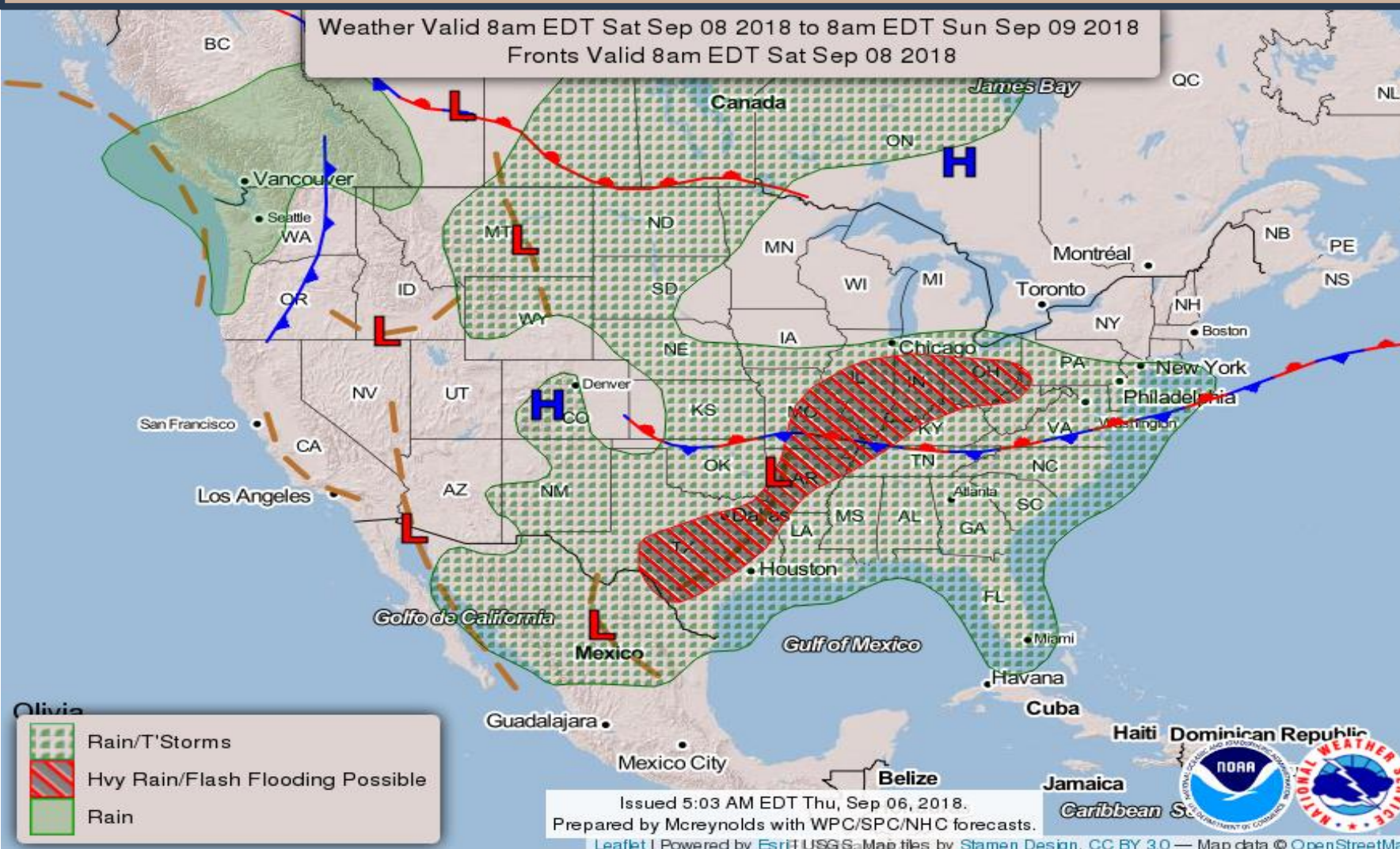


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## Forecast Chart

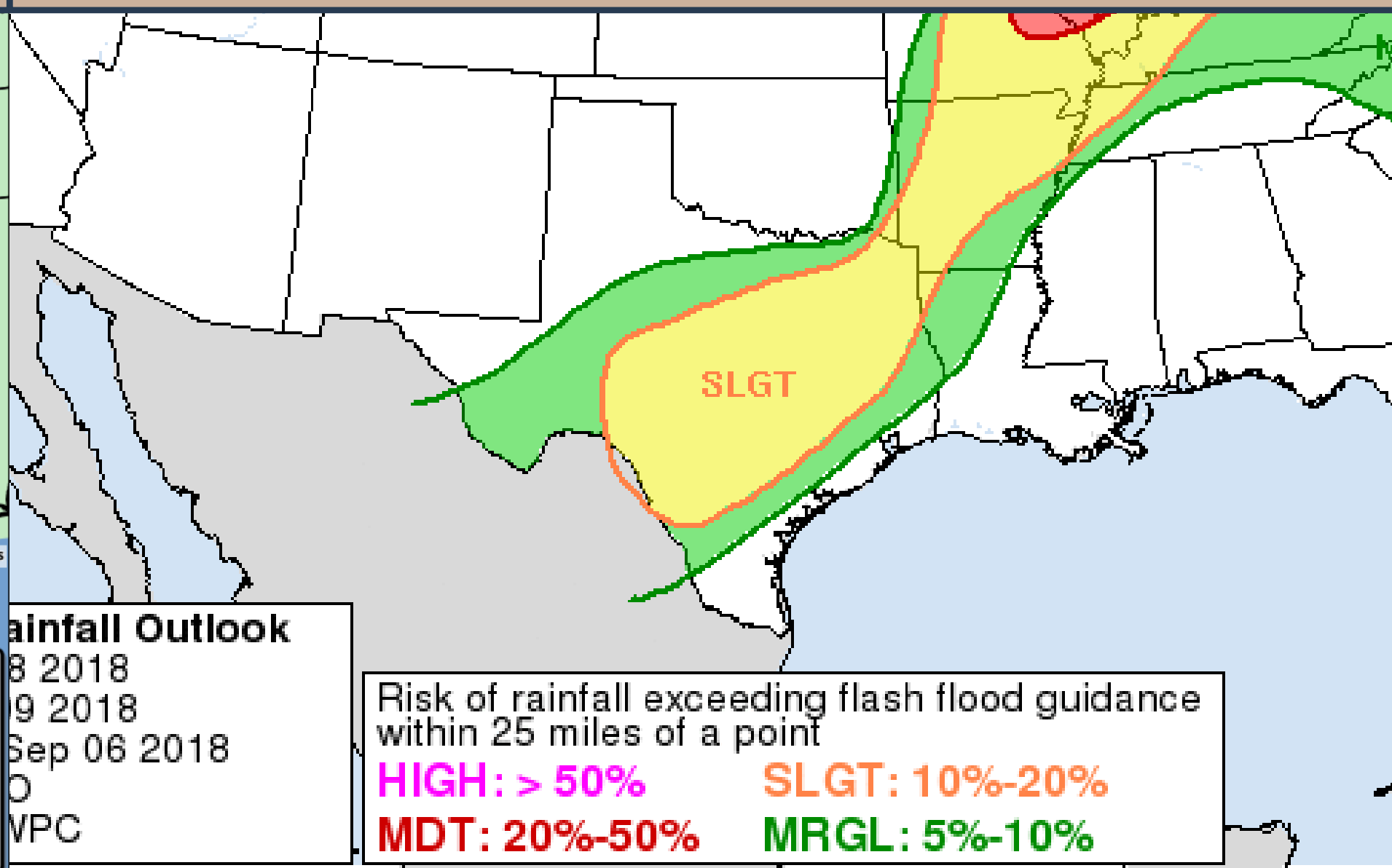
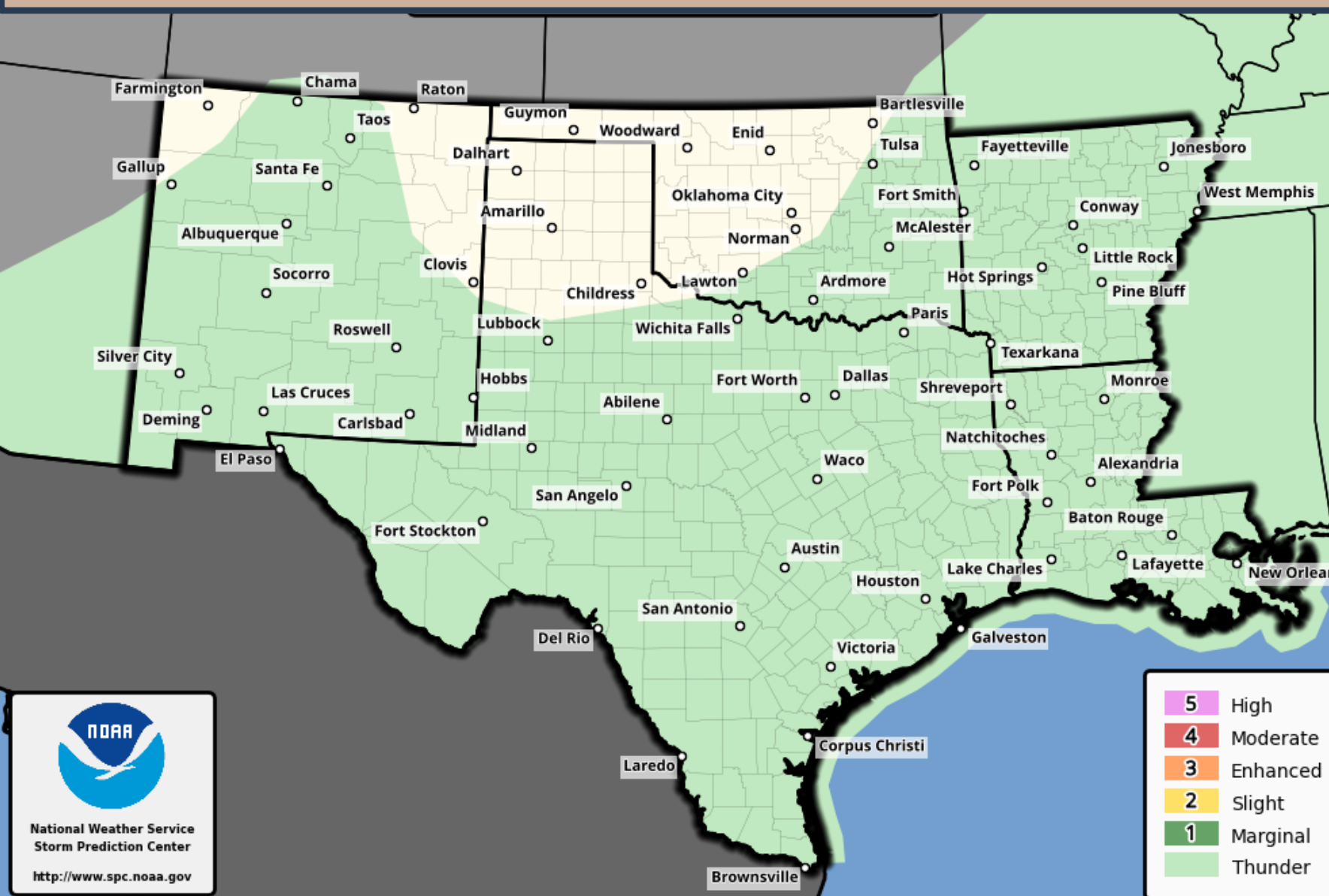
## Forecast Rainfall

**Isolated heavy rain/flash flooding possible from AR through the ArkLaTex into N-Central TX and SW TX.**



## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



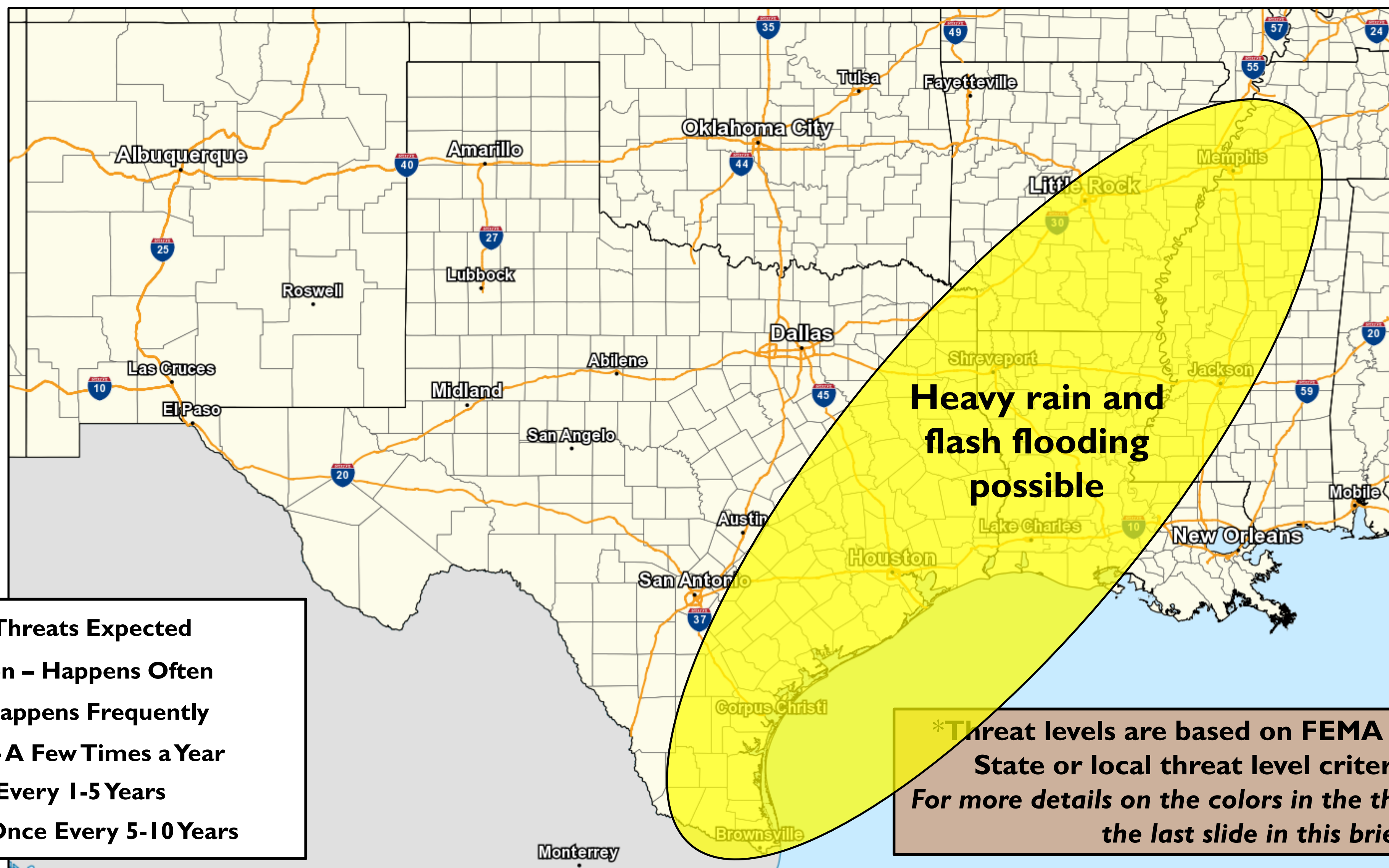


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Sunday - Monday



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- No Weather Threats Expected
- Very Common – Happens Often
- Common – Happens Frequently
- Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
- Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
- Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.



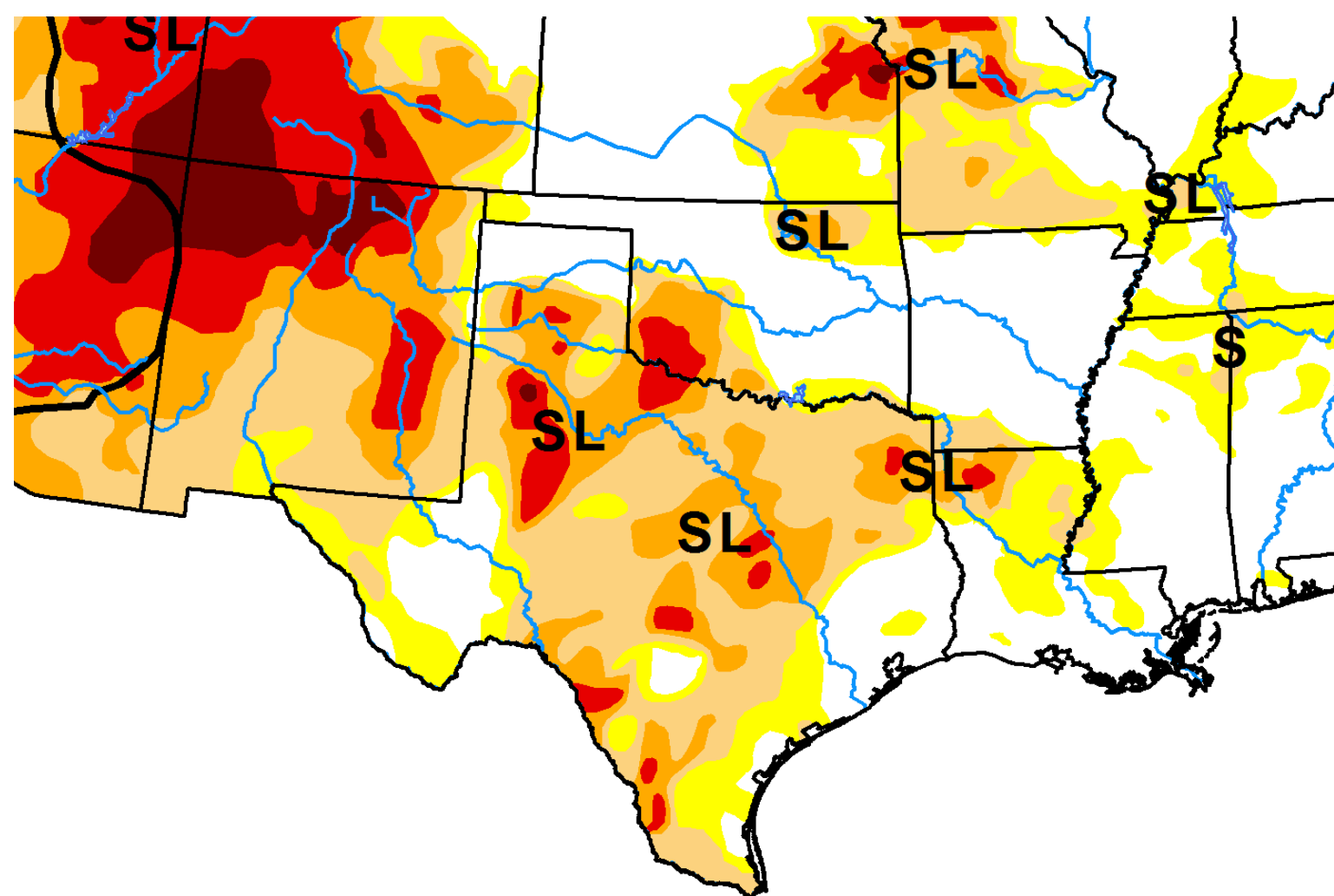
# Drought Monitor (Released September 6, 2018)



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Data valid as of 7am CDT, Tuesday, September 4, 2018

## Drought Monitor

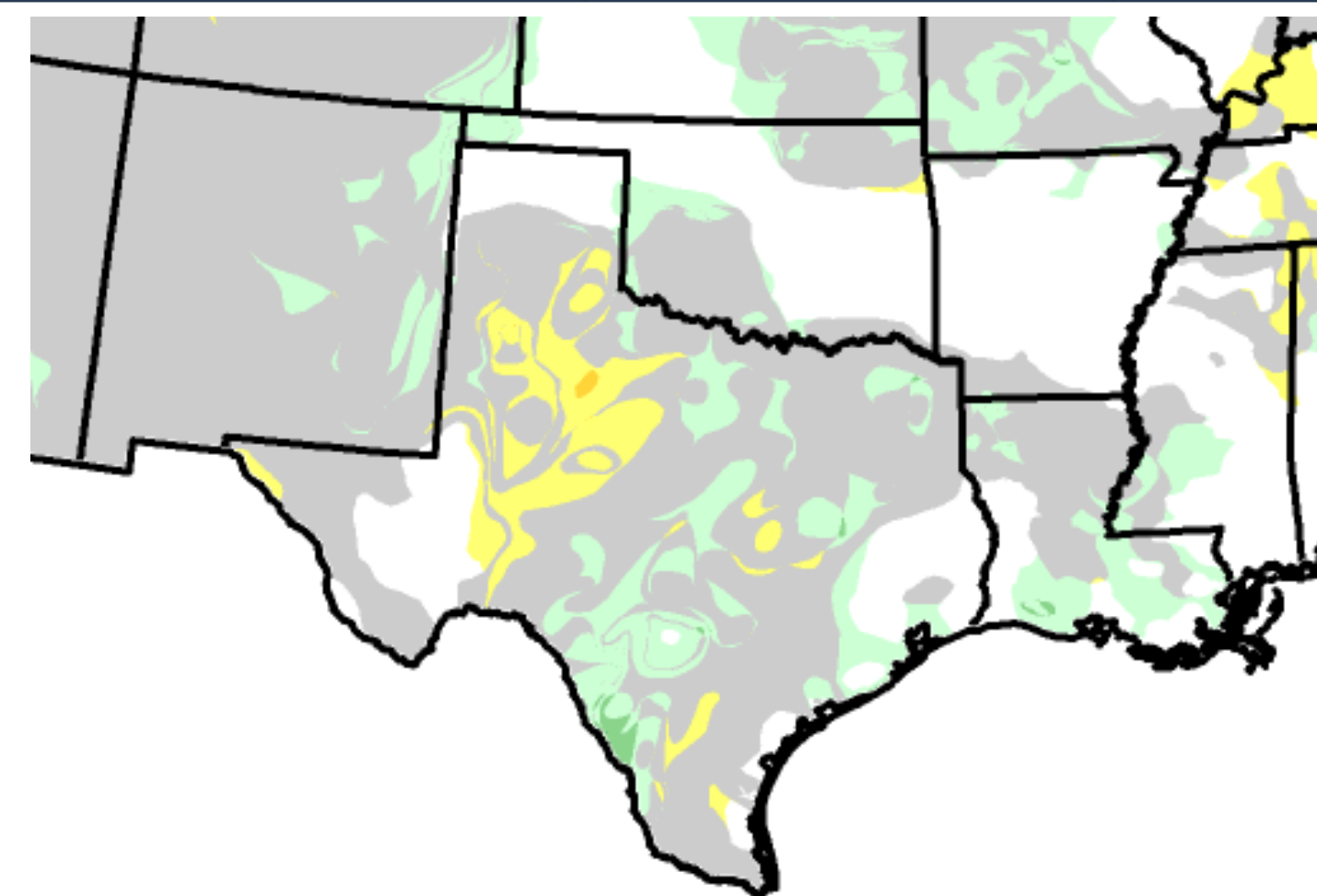


### Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

## One Week Change in Drought

- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement



## Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Louisiana	1.61%	2.86%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	4.69%	5.65%	27.84%	0.00%
Texas	5.51%	6.78%	7.29%	0.00%
New Mexico	34.07%	36.04%	61.99%	0.00%

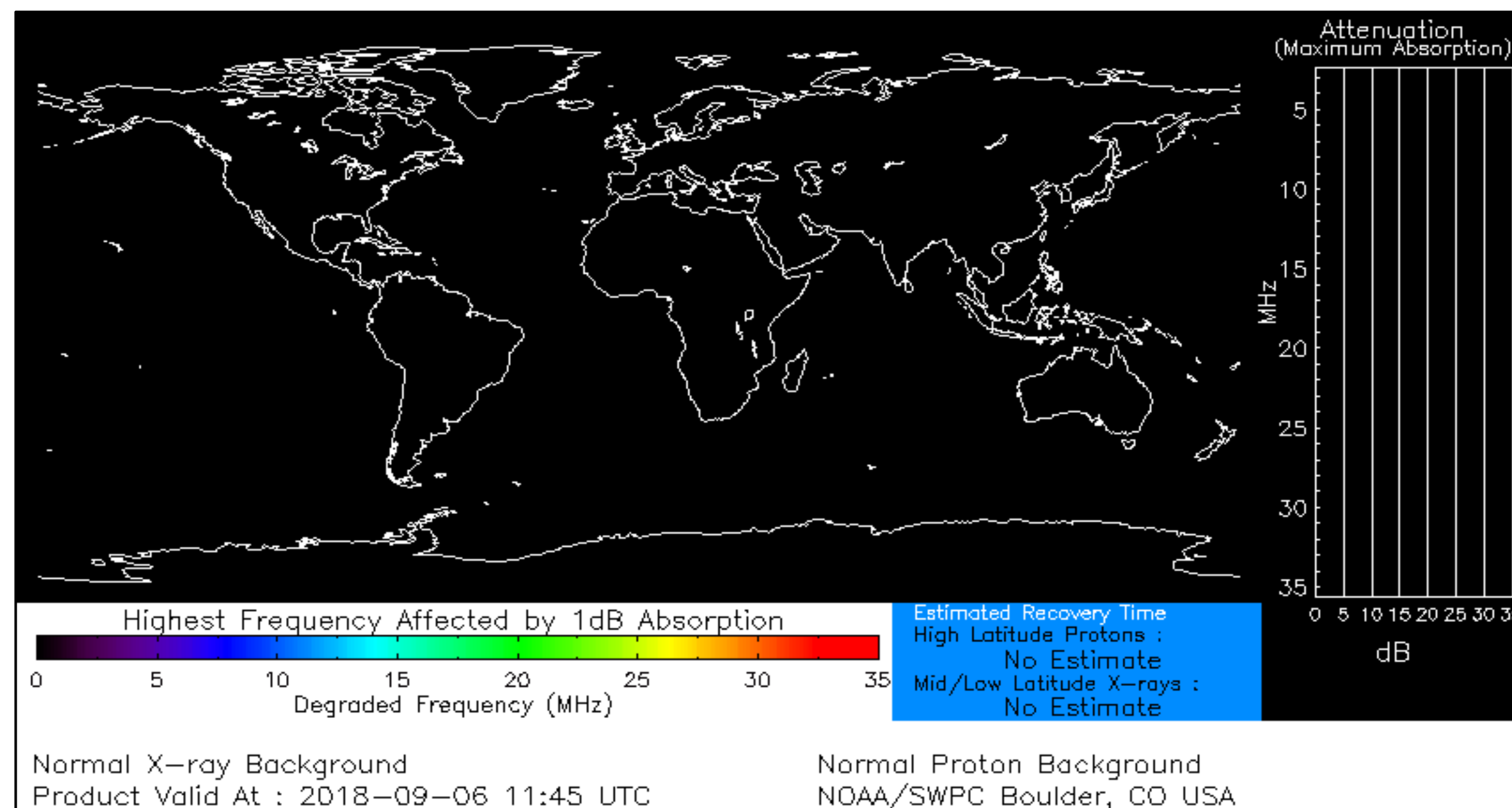


# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



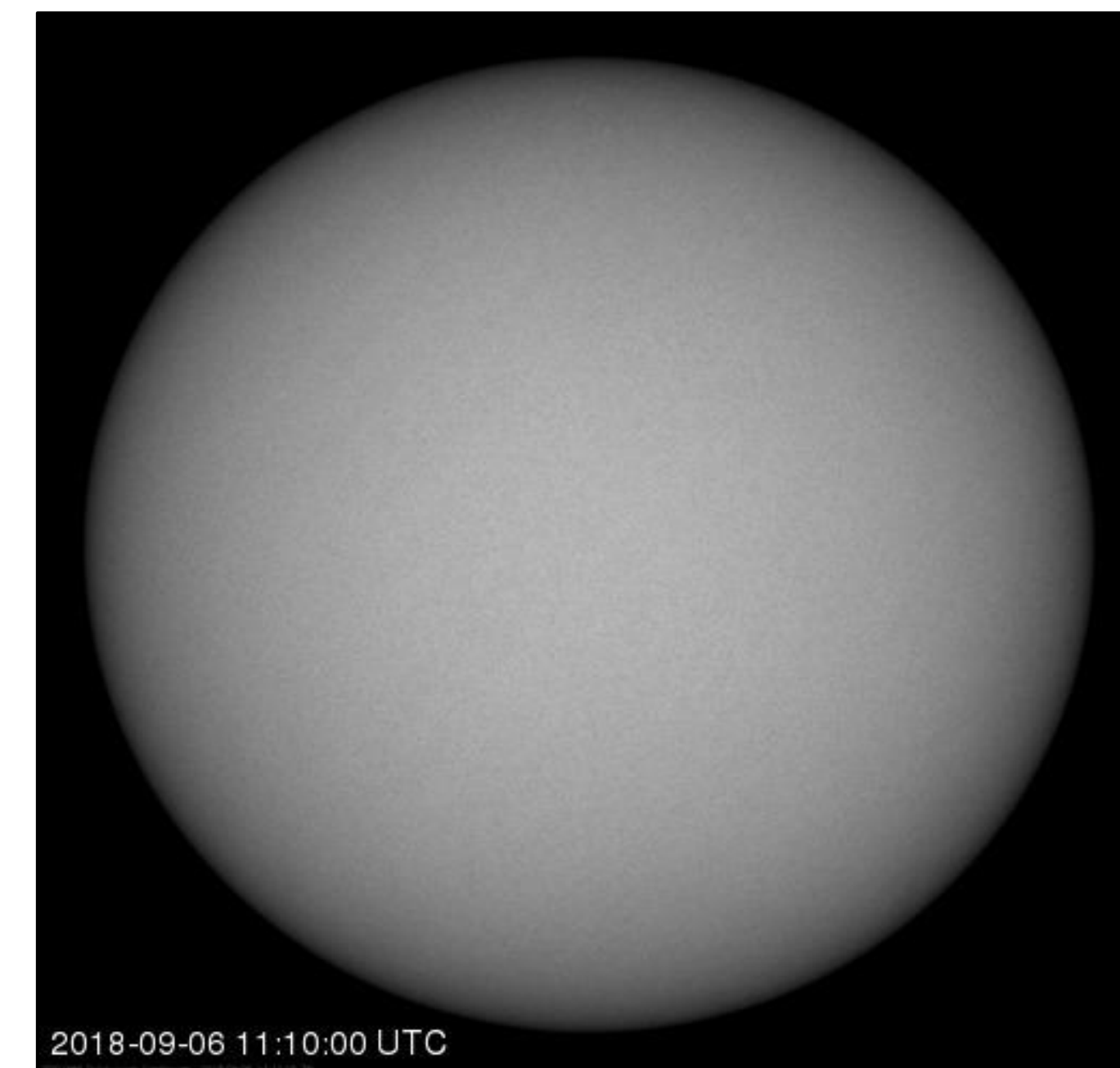
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	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Geomagnetic Storms	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)







# For more information, please contact:

**National Weather Service**  
Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>





Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**

**[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**